

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

FINAL Key Meeting Outcomes

May 16, 2014

Casa Las Palmas

323 E. Cabrillo Blvd · Santa Barbara, CA

Note: After council approval, this document will be posted on line at <http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/minutes.html>. Audio recordings of this and other Council meetings are available upon request to michael.murray@noaa.gov.

Attendance: At peak, fourteen of the council's twenty-one voting seats were present (see attached attendance roster). Five seats were absent for the day: Business, Commercial Fishing, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, California Natural Resources Agency, and Ventura County. Public attendance varied throughout the day, averaging five people.

Administrative Business and Announcements:

The draft key outcomes from the March 21, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved as final.

Maria Petueli (Education seat member) and CDR Christina Davidson (US Coast Guard seat member) were both recognized and thanked for their service as members of the advisory council.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Chris Mobley announced the MERITO Academy program was awarded \$50,000 from the California Coastal Conservancy in a grant to be administered by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. Sean Herron attended a meeting of whale expert John Calambokidis and local whale watching operators to discuss best viewing practices. On March 23rd the non-profit Ocean Defenders Alliance removed about 600 lbs. of net on a reef off Anacapa Island. Chris also announced the retirement of Ben Waltenberger from CINMS, and that Chris Caldwell (from NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science) will soon be transferred to CINMS as the new research coordinator.

Member Announcements

A number of Council members shared announcements (unrelated to meeting agenda items). Audio recordings are available upon request.

Ocean Acidification

CINMS Education Coordinator Laura Francis engaged the sanctuary advisory council in discussions about personal actions that can be taken to help address ocean acidification. The group reviewed a draft list of actions that included a variety of choices adults can make with regard to lifestyle, transportation, energy use, and community involvement. Laura has been helping to host a webinar series called *Sharing Ocean Acidification Resources for Communicators and Educators* (SOARCE). To date, three webinars have focused on "Know Your Audience," "Communicating ocean acidification around the world: Stories and strategies of using narratives to communicate across barriers," and "Bringing ocean acidification research to the classroom: A systems thinking approach." Between 80-200 people listened in to these webinars. The next one will be "Ocean Acidification Data Visualizations: How to access and use IOOS data" on June 24th at 12:00 pm pacific time.

Vic Cox asked about resource vetting to determine what sources to use. Laura said they used people they have met at ocean acidification symposiums and people that are established experts in the field or have experience with communicating science. The webinars are about 45 minutes and have 15 minutes of questions at the end. There will be a workshop this summer to help disseminate curriculum material to educators. Elizabeth Petras

recommended looking into what local resources specific target audiences have access to, and then offering recommendations on what they can do based on this. Bob Warner asked if more details should be covered on what people can do versus the details about ocean acidification. Laura commented that surveys have shown that climate change seems to cause more public controversy, while ocean acidification seems to be more widely accepted. Sharing stories has also been very effective to capture the attention of audiences, Laura explained, but first it is important to establish what the problem is. Luhui Isha Waiya talked about native food sovereignty and how that can contribute to solutions. Mati Waiya said that the challenge of convincing the public can be very difficult and is up to non-profits and others to do all they can to disseminate information.

Public Comment

Ben Pitterle with Santa Barbara Channelkeeper said that they recently took a group of students to Mohawk Reef and talked about ocean acidification. They are looking to fill seats on Sunday June 8th for a half-day kayak trip to Naples Reef through Santa Barbara Adventure Company (30 spots total) for \$30/person.

2014 Sanctuary Classic Recreational Fishing and Photography Tournament

Jenny Armstrong from the Sportfishing Conservancy presented on the 2014 Sanctuary Classic Recreational Fishing and Photography Tournament. The Sportfishing Conservancy is a non-profit group based in Southern California that promotes fishing and the enjoyment/use of sanctuaries throughout the country. The Conservancy is looking for photos that promote youth fishing, family fishing values, and enjoyment/respect of sanctuary waters. Participants can register and submit photos online at www.sanctuaryclassic.org. Each week one winner will be selected by the Sportfishing Conservancy and receive a prize from donations given by one of the event's many sponsors, such as Patagonia. In addition, there will be eight \$500 scholarships given out at the end of the tournament. Fish must be caught in sanctuary waters to qualify. The Classic starts June 7th and lasts through September 1st. Luhui Isha Waiya asked if the Sanctuary Classic plans to promote best practices. Jenny discussed the best practice workshops that have been held in the past, promoting techniques to increase survival during catch and release. She said best practices are also promoted on the Sanctuary Classic website.

Shipping & Whales

Sean Herron from Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary showed whale sighting maps from March and April 2014, showing an increasing number of humpbacks each month. He also updated the council on a recent humpback whale rescue, where a team successfully removed entangled fishing gear from its tail. Coming soon, Sean explained, a new "Whale Alert" app will broaden the scope of a similar east coast app to create a national app targeting both the east and west coasts, adding the ability for users to enter sightings of cetaceans that are either live or in distress to aid in their protection, and expanding the target audience from mainly commercial mariners to the broad maritime community as well as interested members of the public. Whale Alert 2.0 maintains the core functionality as a tool that works to help protect endangered whales by informing mariners of the safest and most current information to reduce the risk of ship strikes, including regulatory and voluntary measures. Sean also reported that a Santa Barbara Channel voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR) pilot program should be starting in early July, hopefully to include 16 registered ship transits, each receiving approximately \$2,500 per transit if they cooperate with the voluntary program requirements. Talks are still underway with potential funders, including the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation and the Campbell Foundation.

Jonna Engel asked if the VSR goal is to get funding or make regulations. Kristi said the ultimate idea is state funding to offset carbon emissions. Sean Hastings said the International Fund for Animal Welfare reached out about interest in the Marine Shipping Working Group, they have been very successful on the East Coast with right whales within and beyond Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, and they could make a valuable addition as a working group member.

Channel Islands Documentary Film

Sam Tyler, a documentary filmmaker, discussed his upcoming documentary film on the Channel Islands. He has teamed up with a writer and cameraman/editor, along with other contacts and resources such as the Santa

Barbara Maritime Museum and Channel Islands National Park to take on creation of this film. When completed it will be available for free and premiere as a 2-hour special. Currently, the working title is "The Story of California's Channel Islands" with a targeted release date of October 2015. The filmmakers are considering making eight half-hour shows with extra footage, possibly one for each island. The budget is \$250,000 and they have already raised more than half. Sam said that he has talked with the Santa Ynez band of Chumash Indians, and Mati Waiya encouraged him to talk to maritime Chumash bands/individuals. Sam said he would follow up, and that he plans to have Chumash included in all three major sections of the film.

Working Group Reports

Channel Islands Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Enforcement: No updates.

Chumash Community Working Group: Luhui Isha Waiya reported that in February they had a working group meeting focused on a proposal that is emerging for a "Chumash Heritage" national marine sanctuary designation off the coast of San Luis Obispo. From the meeting, they learned that more outreach is needed with tribal members to understand the idea. Luhui also reported that an Ocean For Life-inspired intertribal youth summer camp is being developed by Wishtoyo Foundation. This will include taking a youth group out to Santa Cruz Island, where they plan to learn about native food sovereignty and MPAs, and understand how MPAs affect traditional harvests. They also plan to have participants form MPA-related debate teams.

Research Activities Panel: Bob Warner said he is excited to begin coordinating with Chris Caldwon when he arrives at CINMS as the research coordinator.

Marketing Subcommittee: Michael Murray thanked the marketing subcommittee for their advice provided to the council at the last SAC meeting.

Sanctuary Education Team: Maria Petueli, attending her last SAC meeting, announced that she is happy to help pass along pertinent information to the next education seat member.

Recreational Fishing Working Group: no updates.

Commercial Fishing Working Group: no updates.

Conservation Working Group: June 7th and 8th is the Santa Barbara Ocean Festival, kicking off on World Oceans Day. There will be educational booths and fun activities at West Beach, Santa Barbara. Local Chumash are going to bring a tomol and there will be raffle prizes.

Presentation: "Evaluating Offshore Wind Energy Feasibility off the California Central Coast"

Graduate students from UC Santa Barbara's Bren School of Environmental Science and Management gave a presentation summarizing their final project results evaluating offshore wind energy feasibility off the coast of Central California. The project evaluated permitting pathways while also completing a stakeholder analysis and spatial analysis for the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura, to a distance of 100 km offshore. They found that sites may need to satisfy up to 17 federal requirements, 8 state approvals, and 3 county approvals, depending on the site's particular needs and characteristics. According to their presentation, these burdens and uncertainties may pose a great barrier to developers. They also identified 17 key stakeholder groups, then sent out public surveys and completed key stakeholder interviews. A majority of respondents supported offshore energy, but perceived concerns to the viewshed, birds, and marine mammals. Their spatial analysis looked at 7 variables identified during stakeholder interviews (wind and electrical infrastructure, benthic substrate, Department of Defense Sea Range, salmon fishing grounds, dragging grounds for fishing, bird biodiversity, and marine mammal presence) to help them determine areas of highest suitability. They concluded by recommending to streamline the permitting process, address concerns among stakeholders who fear negative impacts, and the need for better spatial data to improve the site selection process.

Capt. David Bacon mentioned that consideration of recreational fishing may be even more important than commercial fishing since recreational fishing creates more jobs. Students responded that they did not ignore recreational fishing, they just didn't have sufficient data for their spatial analysis. Also, they said this is a way people could approach the issue and it is not a definitive recommendation. Mati Waiya said there were no cultural considerations. Also, he asked what the cost would be to transport the energy to shore, and who would benefit from this energy. Students responded that much of the scoping and impact considerations could be put into the permitting process. Elizabeth Petras said another consideration should be the potential for ship traffic in some of the possible siting locations considered, not just within shipping lanes.

Meeting Close-Out

Dianne Black closed out the meeting, noting that upcoming SAC meetings in 2014 will be held on:

- Friday, July 18 (Oxnard)
- Friday, September 19 (Santa Barbara)
- Friday, November 21 (Ventura)

Meeting Attendance Roster (05/16/2014):

Andrea Mills	Tourism	<i>Present</i>
Matthew Curto	Tourism – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Debra Herring	Non-Consumptive Recreation	<i>Present</i>
Stuart Wilson	Non-Consumptive Recreation - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Michael Cohen	Business	<i>Absent</i>
Capt. Kip Louttit	Business - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Kristi Birney	Conservation	<i>Present</i>
Greg Helms	Conservation - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Bruce Steele	Commercial Fishing	<i>Absent</i>
Stephanie Mutz	Commercial Fishing - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Capt. David Bacon	Recreational Fishing	<i>Present</i>
Merit McCrea	Recreational Fishing - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Maria Petueli [Council Secretary]	Education	<i>Present</i>
Amanda Allen	Education – Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Robert Warner	Research	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Mark Steele	Research – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Phyllis Grifman [Vice-Chair]	Public At Large #1	<i>Absent</i>
Victor Cox	Public At Large #1 - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Eric Kett	Public At Large #2	<i>Absent</i>
Richard Block	Public At Large #2 - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Luhui Isha Waiya	Chumash Community	<i>Present</i>
Mati Waiya	Chumash Community - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Elizabeth Petras	NOAA Fisheries	<i>Present</i>
Shelby Mendez	NOAA Fisheries - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Russell Galipeau	National Park Service	<i>Present</i>
David Ashe	National Park Service - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
CDR Christina Davidson	US Coast Guard	<i>Present</i>
LT Cody Dunagan	US Coast Guard – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Donna Schroeder	Bureau of Ocean Energy Mgmt (BOEM)	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Ann Bull	BOEM – Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
John Ugoretz	Dept. of Defense	<i>Present</i>
Walt Schobel	Dept. of Defense - Alternate	<i>Present</i>
Craig Shuman	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	<i>Present</i>
Kai Lampson	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Rich Rozzelle	CA Natural Resources Agency	<i>Absent</i>
Amy Vierra	CA Natural Resources Agency - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. Jonna Engel	CA Coastal Commission	<i>Present</i>
Steve Hudson	CA Coastal Commission - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Dianne Black [Council Chair]	Santa Barbara County	<i>Present</i>
Susan Curtis	Santa Barbara County - Alternate	<i>Absent</i>
Gary Hirtensteiner	Ventura County	<i>Absent</i>
<vacant>	Ventura County - Alternate	--
Chris Mobley	Channel Islands NMS [non-voting]	<i>Present</i>
Paul Michel	Monterey Bay NMS [non-voting]	<i>Absent</i>
Karen Grimmer	Monterey Bay NMS - Alternate [non-voting]	<i>Absent</i>
Maria Brown	Gulf of the Farallones NMS [non-voting]	<i>Absent</i>